These figures do not incontrovertibly prove that venerial diseases are on the increase in the State. They prove that a larger number of such cases is taken to hospital treatment.

(b) The matter will receive the consideration of the Government.

Typhoid and other enteric fevers.

273. Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Will the Government be pleased to state, referring to statistics, if possible.—

(1) whether typhoid and other enteric fevers have not been on the increase, among the people of the State, during the last ten years;

(2) whether the Government proposes to take any effective measures to combat the evil?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) It is not possible to furnish the information. Statistics of the cases admitted and treated in the hospitals and dispensaries of the State during the last three years stand as follows :—

1099	..	1,323
1100	....	1,862
1101	....	1,419

These figures do not incontrovertibly prove that typhoid and other enteric fevers are on the increase in the State. They prove that a larger number of such cases is taken to the hospital for treatment.

(2) No effective measures to combat the evil are practicable under existing conditions. The Ernakulam Town possesses the best preventive measure in the provision of a protected water supply. Education of the masses in sanitary principles and special propaganda work are all that can be attempted by the Government, and they are being done, as far as possible.

The supply of Alwaye water to Mattancheri.

274. Mr. A. B. Salem.— Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) the date on which they accepted Mr. S. S. Koder's resolution to give the town of Mattancheri a moderate supply of Alwaye water for drinking purposes;

(b) the steps taken up-to-date to supply the same;

(c) the state in which the matter stands at present;

(d) the scheme or schemes they contemplate for carrying out of the purpose of the resolution;

(e) the difficulties, if any, they have to contend in fulfilling the obligations arising to supply water by accepting the resolution;

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